into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area is judged and coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted in the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, are recognized in accordance with the optical detection signal of the optical unit, wherein a second threshold value used in recognizing the coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted in the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, is set to be higher than the first threshold value used in judging if the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, wherein the optical unit includes plural optical elements, wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

2. (Amended) A coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, comprising:

a two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area that is at least substantially flat;

a designating device configured to designate a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area;

an optical unit configured to optically detect the designating device inserted into a predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and to output a detection signal according to a result of the detection;

a judging device configured to judge whether the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area when the detection signal of the optical unit exceeds a first threshold value;

-2-

a recognition device configured to obtain coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted in the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, by utilizing the detection signal; and

a first threshold value prescribing device configured to prescribe a second threshold value, which is used by the recognition device in obtaining the coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted in the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, said second threshold value being higher than the first threshold value,

wherein the optical unit includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

6. (Amended) A coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, in which designating means for designating a position on at least substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of the apparatus is judged as located in a predetermined range of the two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of the apparatus, and in which whether or not the designating means has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area is judged by optical detecting means and coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating means, are recognized, wherein a threshold value used in recognizing the coordinate of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area designated by the designating means inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area is set to be higher than a threshold value used

-3-

in judging if the designating means has been inserted into the predetermined range of the

coordinate inputting/detecting area, wherein the optical detecting means includes plural

optical elements, wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections

by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating means to the

optical elements, and wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest

of the optical elements from the designating means.

7. (Amended) A coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, comprising:

a two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area that is at least substantially flat;

designating means for designating a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting

area;

optical detecting means for optically detecting the designating means inserted into a

predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and for outputting a detection

signal according to a result of the detection;

judging means for judging whether the designating means has been inserted into the

predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area;

recognizing means for obtaining coordinates of a position in the coordinate

inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating means inserted into the predetermined

range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area; and

first threshold value prescribing means for prescribing a threshold value used by the

recognizing means in obtaining the coordinates of the position in the coordinate

inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating means inserted into the predetermined

range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, to be higher than a threshold value used by

the judging means in judging whether or not the designating means has been inserted into the

predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area,

-4-

wherein the optical detecting means includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating means to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating means.

11. (Amended) A method of inputting/detecting coordinates of a position designated by a designating device in an at least substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of a coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, the method comprising steps of:

judging, by an optical unit, whether the designating device is located in a predetermined range of the two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of the coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, when an optical detection signal based on detecting the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, exceeds a first threshold value; and

judging whether or not the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and recognizing coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, in accordance with the optical detection signal;

wherein a second threshold value used in recognizing the coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, is set to be higher than the

-5-

first threshold value used in judging if the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area,

wherein the optical unit includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

12. (Amended) A method of inputting/detecting coordinates of a position designated by a designating device in an at least substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of a coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, the method comprising steps of:

optically detecting with an optical detecting device the designating device inserted into a predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and outputting a detection signal according to a result of the detection;

judging whether the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area when the detection signal exceeds a first threshold value;

recognizing coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, by utilizing the detection signal; and

prescribing a second threshold value, which is used in recognizing the coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device

-6-

inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, so as to be higher than the first threshold value,

wherein the optical detecting device includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

16. (Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to control inputting/detecting of coordinates of a position designated by a designating device in an at least substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of a coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, the computer program code mechanism including:

a first computer code device configured to judge whether the designating device is located in a predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area of the coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus when an optical detection signal of an optical detecting device, that optically detects the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, exceeds a first threshold value; and

a second computer code device configured to judge whether or not the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and to recognize coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined

-7-

range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, in accordance with the optical detection signal of the optical detecting device;

wherein a second threshold value used in recognizing the coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, is set to be higher than the first threshold value used in judging if the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area,

wherein the optical detecting device includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

17. (Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to control inputting/detecting coordinates of a position designated by a designating device in an at least substantially flat two-dimensional coordinate inputting/detecting area of a coordinate inputting/detecting apparatus, the computer program code mechanism including:

a first computer code device configured to optically detect with an optical detecting device the designating device inserted into a predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area and to output a detection signal according to a result of the detection;

-8-

a second computer code device configured to judge whether the designating device has been inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area when the detection signal exceeds a first threshold value;

a third computer code device configured to recognize coordinates of a position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, by utilizing the detection signal; and

a fourth computer code device configured to prescribe a second threshold value, which is used in recognizing the coordinates of the position in the coordinate inputting/detecting area, designated by the designating device inserted into the predetermined range of the coordinate inputting/detecting area, so as to be higher than the first threshold value,

wherein the optical detecting device includes plural optical elements,

wherein the first and second thresholds are calculated based on detections by the optical elements in accordance with a distance from the designating device to the optical elements, and

wherein the first threshold is calculated based on detection of a farthest of the optical elements from the designating device.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Approval of the attached proposed drawing change to Figure 7A is requested.

-9-